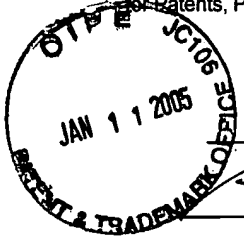


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: M.S.-Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on



7 January 2005  
Date of Deposit

Paul E. Rauch, Ph.D.  
Name

[Signature]  
Signature

**Our Case No. DGN01-001-US**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Franklin Okumu	)	
	)	
Serial No. 09/839,684	)	Examiner Jeffrey E. Russel
	)	
Filing Date: April 19, 2001	)	Group Art Unit No. 1654
	)	
For Sustained Release Formulations	)	

**PETITION AND FEE FOR EXTENSION OF TIME (37 CFR § 1.136(a))**

M.S. - Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a petition for an extension of the time to respond to the Office Action dated July 7, 2004 for a period of three months.

Please charge the \$1,020.00 fee to our American Express card. A Credit Card Payment Form is attached. A duplicate copy of this Petition is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]  
Paul E. Rauch, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 38,591

Evan Law Group LLC  
566 West Adams  
Suite 350  
Chicago, Illinois 60661  
(312) 876-1400